

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will continue to yield, I would say to him that we want to continue the reputation that we have established in the 104th Congress of being the reform Congress. We have every intention of continuing with our plans for a reform week.

We intend to do a campaign finance reform bill. Unfortunately, we are slipping the schedule on our appropriations bills, and our first priority is to get through the 13 appropriation bills and use the precious floor time for them, but we have every intention of honoring our commitments on reforms, to continue the reforms that we have been working on, sometime in July.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, I would once again ask the gentleman, as I have the gentleman from California, Chairman THOMAS, and others who may have jurisdiction, if we could be given some understanding about what will be coming to the floor during that week, whenever it is.

It is our experience that when we have task force government in the legislative process, we do not always have an opportunity to participate until, all of a sudden, the legislation is before us. So, I am wondering when we may be informed about what will be the composition of reform week in some detail. Could the gentleman inform us?

Mr. DELAY. As soon as we know, we will let the gentleman know.

Mr. FAZIO of California. I consider that a very candid comment, and I appreciate the response.

One last question, and I will not prolong this. I know a good deal of attention is suddenly being focused on the MFN for China. Could the gentleman tell us when that very important debate, which is really bipartisan in nature, might well come before the body?

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Chairman, I would advise the gentleman that we are trying to work with both sides on the MFN issue. We are going to have a leadership meeting next week and we have been in discussion with our leadership team. There is a possibility that we would do MFN next week if we can get the floor time for it and do it.

We would like to get it on to the floor and moving as quickly as we can, and we think we can do that. Although, we cannot, for certain, say it is going to be next week, there is a possibility it will be brought up next week.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Does the gentleman have any idea how long we might have to debate that, how extensive the time commitment to MFN would likely be?

Mr. DELAY. If we do it next week, it would be several hours, but it would not be the 20 hours as required. We will consult with the minority leadership to make sure that every Member's requests are taken care of, but understanding that floor time is very precious.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Chairman, I will try to wrap this one up and yield further.

If it is possible, after the first two appropriations bills, VA-HUD and Transportation, are dealt with, if Labor-HHS is not ready, we may well then go to Thursday afternoon, Friday morning consideration of MFN; is that correct?

Mr. DELAY. I would say that that is a real possibility.

Mr. FAZIO of California. And Friday is firm, until 2, next week?

Mr. DELAY. Friday we will be out by 2 p.m. no matter what.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate very much the input of the majority whip, and if the Speaker would forbear for just a second, I have been asked by the White House to indicate for those going to the picnic tonight that they are urging people to take Independence Avenue to 17th street, right on 17th, cross Constitution and take the first right turn onto the Ellipse.

There is a tremendous potential for a traffic snarl there tonight. Parking is available on the Ellipse and east toward East Executive Drive. If any Members who are listening to this have some concerns about it, call the cloakrooms of the two parties and we will help try to ease transportation.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 1996

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, June 24, 1996, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 25, 1996, for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RADANOVICH). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1996

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

THE FILEGATE INVESTIGATION

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, all Americans should note with pride the fact that the Olympic torch passes through Washington today on its way to Atlanta, GA, but we should issue this warning both to the International Olympic Committee and the U.S. Olympic Committee: "Whatever you do with that torch, please don't stop at the White House." Chances are the torch would get lost and we would not see it for 2½ years. But I am sure that would be just an honest bureaucratic snafu.

Mr. Speaker, in all sincerity, this morning I respectfully request that we include in today's Washington Times entitled "The Filegate Investigation." If we include that in the RECORD, we will come to the conclusion that all sober and fair-minded Americans should share, that with all due respect to the FBI, letting the FBI conduct its own investigation into the Filegate matter would be like letting the fox guard the henhouse. An independent counsel is needed to get to the truth on this subject.

THE FILEGATE INVESTIGATION

Now that Whitewater independent counsel Kenneth Starr has determined he lacks jurisdiction to investigate White House abuse of FBI background files on more than 400 Reagan and Bush appointees, Attorney General Janet Reno is planning to turn over the investigation to the FBI itself. That is less than a satisfactory solution—to put it mildly.

This unprecedented and "egregious"—as FBI Director Louis Freeh describes it—violation of the Privacy Act could not, after all, have happened without FBI cooperation. And this is not the first time that that agency has overstepped the bounds of propriety, if not legality, in its willingness to cooperate with the Clinton White House. Senior FBI officials allowed themselves to be browbeaten by White House staffers into getting involved in constructing the Clintons' cover story for the summary firing of seven travel office employees in May, 1993. And now it turns out that for months afterwards, without batting an eye, they were merrily handling over hundreds of confidential files the White House had no business getting its hands on.

The White House responded to the initial revelations of these privacy violations with typical disingenuousness. While acknowledging it should never have happened, Clinton spokesmen laid it all at the feet of a low-level clerk, who had no idea who did or did not still need White House access and was using an outdated Secret Service list—and an order form stamped with then-White House Counsel Bernard Nussbaum's name. The Secret Service quickly jumped into the fray with the news that their lists of employees are constantly updated, and that active and inactive passholders are very clearly designated—in short, that there is no such thing as an out-dated Secret Service list.

That hardly mattered in any case, once it also became known that the clerk, civilian Army investigator Anthony Marceca, was actually a longtime Democratic hack, who'd been brought on board by and was working under the direction of another veteran Democratic operative, Craig Livingstone, who worked for then-Associate Counsel, Rose Law Firm partner and Clinton crony William H. Kennedy III. All three had every reason to know perfectly well that they didn't need